

MONTANA STATE PLAN & POLICY MANUAL
CHAPTER EIGHT

Policy Number: 8.5
Homeless Food Package
Effective Date: October 1, 2012

Title: Homeless Food Package

Purpose

To establish procedures for the issuance of allowable foods for participants who are homeless or who lack cooking facilities or refrigeration.

Authority

7 CFR 246.10

Policy

Homeless food packages are designed to meet the needs of those with limited food preparation and/or storage facilities. A participant's individual circumstances should be considered in prescribing the most appropriate food package.

I. Issuing Food Packages Designed for Homeless Individuals

- A. Special care and consideration will be given in issuing a food package most appropriate to the participant's living condition.
- B. The participant's individual circumstances will be considered in regard to cooking, food preparation facilities and adequate refrigeration and dry storage capabilities.
- C. Issuance of a standard food package may be appropriate if adequate food preparation and storage facilities are available.
- D. Modifications in both the types and amounts of foods may be required to assure the WIC supplemental foods can be safely stored and utilized.
- E. The full nutritional benefit of the food package will be appropriate for the participant's category and age.
- F. Local agency staff will check with the retailer where the participant plans to shop to ensure the foods on the benefit are available.

II. Infant Feeding

- A. Breastfeeding of infants will be encouraged.
- B. When formula is requested, powdered formula is issued.
- C. Ready-To-Feed formula may be issued if adequate water is not available.

III. Child and Adult Food Packages

- A. Modify standard food packages as appropriate.

1. Egg Issuance

- a. Eggs may be issued if proper refrigeration is available.
- b. If proper refrigeration is not available, than one 18 ounce jar of peanut butter may be issued (along with normal allowance).

- 1. Also, canned beans (legumes) may be substituted for eggs at a rate of 64 ounces of beans to 1 dozen eggs.

B. Call the State Office before substituting for eggs as there are extra steps that need to be taken within the computer system.

